

# ecoNews — Wire —

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

March 17, 2005

For immediate release

## 1. Approval of 319 water quality projects on EPC agenda

### **APPROVAL OF 319 WATER QUALITY PROJECTS ON EPC AGENDA**

DES MOINES – The DNR will ask commissioners to approve loans and grants that will improve water quality at the March 21 meeting of the Environmental Protection Commission.

The EPC will meet on Monday, at 10 a.m., at the DNR office, 7900 Hickman Road in Urbandale. Public participation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The DNR will request approval to fund 19 contracts for nonpoint source (NPS) pollution control projects at a total cost of \$3,405,880. Funds for the projects will come from federal Section 319 grants, along with funding from state and federal programs.

While most of the contracts are new, some contracts would provide additional funding for an existing project. The following proposed NPS projects are for multi-year watershed projects:

- Briggs Woods Lake Watershed Management Project, Hamilton County, \$300,000
- Viking Lake Water Quality Project, Montgomery County, \$190,000
- Brushy Creek Lake Watershed Project, Webster County, \$255,000
- Hickory Hills Lake Watershed Protection Project, Tama County, \$38,400
- Staff and Beaver Creeks Water Quality Project, Howard County, \$247,000
- Water Quality in Rathbun Lake: BMPs for Targeted Sub-Watersheds 2004, - Wayne, Lucas, Appanoose, Monroe, Clarke, and Decatur Counties, \$300,000
- Muchankinock Creek Watershed Project, Mahaska County, \$300,000
- Lake Meyers Water Quality Project, Winneshiek County, \$50,000
- Farmers Creek Watershed Project, Jackson County, \$250,000

- Jordan Creek Watershed, East Pottawattamie County, \$300,000
- Winterset Municipal Water Supply, Cedar Lake, Madison County, \$120,000
- Storm Lake Water Quality Project, Buena Vista County, \$110,000
- Whitebreast Creek Watershed Project, Lucas, Marion, Warren and Clarke Counties, \$120,000
- Clear Lake Water Quality Project, Hancock and Cerro Gordo Counties, \$122,480

The following three NPS projects will demonstrate the importance of storm water management:

- Fairfield Regional Stormwater Management Demonstration, Jefferson County, \$63,000
- Infiltration-Based Stormwater Management in Iowa's Great Lakes Region, Dickinson County, \$160,000
- Rathbun Lighthouse and Visitor Center: Public Education and Support for Water Quality Protection, \$172,000

Two additional projects will demonstrate the importance of conservation tillage and wellhead protection:

- Partnership of Iowans for Conservation Tillage Systems (aka Iowa Learning Farms Project), \$150,000. This proposal would increase awareness and adoption of conservation tillage systems through field demonstrations and educational programming. Partners include Iowa State University, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- Wellhead Protection Plans for Drinking Water Sources, \$158,000. This proposed contract with the Iowa Rural Water Association would provide on-site, individualized assistance to water utilities to develop wellhead protection plans.

Commissioners will also be asked to approve loans for \$22,578,000 from a state revolving fund for 23 drinking water supply projects in fiscal year 2005. These projects protect public health by ensuring that public drinking water is adequately treated and source waters are protected.

The complete agenda follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Correction of January, 2005 Minutes; Amendment to rule paragraph – 65.17(13)“e” – Records of commercial fertilizer application
- U.S Dept. of Energy Building America Grant — Research and Design of Affordable Highly Energy Efficient Homes Contract
- Proposed Rule - Amendments to Chapter 135, Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements for Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Tanks

- Proposed Rule - Amendments to Chapter 136, Financial Responsibility Requirements for Underground Storage Tanks
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Project Contracts
- FFY 2005 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan, Fourth Quarter Update
- Contract – Kirkwood Community College - Basic Training Water Distribution Course Reimbursement
- Contract - U. S. Geological Survey for Groundwater Quality Monitoring.
- Air Quality - Title V Fee Budget Review
- Proposed Rule - Chapter 22, Controlling Pollution (Air Construction Permitting Exemptions)
- Notice of Intended Action: Air Quality Program Rules Chapter 20 - Addition of definitions for biodiesel fuel, number 1 fuel oil and number 2 fuel oil
- Proposed Rule - Chapter 23, Clarification Regarding Ordinary Travel on Unpaved Public Roads
- Referrals to the Attorney General
- Ryan Robertson (Jefferson County) - Stormwater
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion
  - a) US Court of Appeals Ruling regarding NPDES permits for CAFOs
  - b) Land application of sewage update
- Items for next month's meeting
- Upcoming Meetings

More information about the agenda items can be found on the DNR Web site under Commissions and Boards at [www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com).

The members of the commission are Darrell Hanson, chair, Manchester; Kathryn Murphy, LeMars; Terrance Townsend, Newton; Lisa Davis-Cook, West Des Moines; Lori Glanzman, Mt. Pleasant; Jerry Peckum, Jefferson; Heidi Vittetoe, Washington; Francis Thicke, Fairfield; and Donna Buell, Spirit Lake. The director of the DNR is Jeff Vonk.

**For more information, contact Karen Grimes, at (515) 281-5135.**